PATENT APP. SER. NO.: Not yet assigned ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1717198

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Patent Application of: | Examiner: |
|--|-------------------|
| Thomas McQuiggin Lowes) | Group Art Unit: |
| U.S. Serial No.: Not yet assigned) | Confirmation No.: |
| International Appln. No. PCT/IB2004/002209 | |
| Filing Date: Not yet assigned) | |
| For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR) PROCESS GAS ENTRAINMENT) AND MIXING IN A KILN SYSTEM) | |
| | |

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

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JAP15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 03 JAN 2006

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Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees in connection with the filing of this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Schneider Reg. No. 27,383

Date: January 3, 2006 Chapman and Cutler LLP 111 West Monroe Street Chicago, Illinois 60603-4080 (312) 845-3919

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents on the date indicated below.

Brenda A. Walton

Name of person mailing paper

Signature

Date

IAP15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 33 JAN 2006

| FORM PTO-1449 (Rev. 8-83) | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | DOCKET Not | IAL NO. yet gned | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|--|--|--|
| INI | FORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | APPLICANTS Lowes | | | | |
| | | FILING DATE GRO Not yet assigned | OUP | | | |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER | DOCUMENT | | | | | FILING DATE |
|----------|-----------|----------|-------------|-------|----------|----------------|
| INITIAL | NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | If Appropriate |
| | 5,286,200 | 02/15/94 | Wurz et al. | F27B | 7/36 | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | | | | 77 6 9 71 | TRANSLATION | |
|----------|---------------|----------|---------|-------|-----------|-------------|--|
| EXAMINER | DOCUMENT | | | | | | |
| INITIAL | NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | YES NO | |
| | 5-223228 | 08/31/93 | Japan | F23G | 5/20 | (Abstract) | |
| | 0579987 A1 | 01/26/94 | EPO | F23G | 5/20 | (Abstract) | |
| | EP 1235044 A1 | 08/28/02 | EPO | F27B | 7/20 | X | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.